

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
June 7, 2023

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Bob Sherman, Vice Chairman
Thomas Bazan
Tabitha Bock
Mike Brooks
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
Dean Williams

Members Absent: Molly Berns and Jeanette Goza

Staff Present: Emily Prather

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the May minutes. A motion to approve the May minutes was made by Commissioner Bazan and was seconded by Commissioner Sherman. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell noted he had sent everyone an email earlier in the day stating unfortunately the Commission would not be submitting for a CLG grant. Chairman Pell noted only one consultant responded even though he was hopeful for two responses based on the report at the May meeting. Chairman Pell noted the fee was \$36,240 which is \$6,240 more than the ceiling on the grant application. Chairman Pell stated that the fee would make it a \$51,771 total project cost with the Commission's portion being \$15,531. He noted without any county staff time, the Commission would have to contribute 1,195 hours of work or 133 hours per Commissioner. Chairman Pell indicated this amount of time was not achievable given the Commission's volunteer hours to date. Chairman Pell noted he has not sent a response to the one consultant but noted he will after this meeting. Chairman Pell noted the Commission could go back to the consultant with a different structure for how the Commission could complete a township survey. Chairman Pell noted the Commission could do several other projects and apply for a CLG grant. Chairman Pell noted other CLGs must have additional funding sources to achieve the 30% grant match requirement. Chairman Pell noted that in the past the Commission has sent in applications but that was before the GATA process became a requirement. Commissioner Bazan stated that the variable the Commission has been asking for is how much it is going to cost for a consultant to do this. Commissioner Bazan stated that since the Commission now has the cost, the Commission could go back to the consultant group and ask which pieces would be more costly than others. Commissioner Bazan stated the Commission could then figure out a way to make it happen within the budget by asking the consultant group how necessary each item is, and then deciding which items to keep or get rid of that would put the project within the target budget. Chairman Pell stated that this is going to take effort and time from more than one of the Commissioners and a subcommittee would be needed to focus on the CLG grant application. Commissioner Bazan asked if Chairman Pell was going to reach out to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to explain the Commission's process issues. Chairman Pell noted the Commission could also have a Zoom meeting with the consultant and IDNR. Chairman Pell noted some Commissioners could meet

for a special meeting to discuss the CLG grant application. Commissioner Williams stated he would like to be a part of a subcommittee for the CLG grant.

Old Business: Chairman Pell stated he has not finished the edits on the barn book yet. Chairman Pell noted he will get the edits finished and bring it in for staff member Prather to send out to all the Commissioners before the July meeting. Chairman Pell noted in Commissioner Sherman's barn notes section there are some figures referenced that do not have an image connected to them. Commissioner Bazan noted the Commission could either remove all the "see figures" references or find the figures and add them to the book. Commissioner Bazan noted the barn book could be a more attainable CLG grant application. Commissioner Bazan noted the project cost would be lower and it could be something as simple as printing enough copies for all the libraries in Sangamon County to have a copy. Chairman Pell noted the sweat equity could be the Commission taking the books to the various libraries. Commissioner Bazan also noted the Commission previously discussed not doing the final editing for the book yet as that could be counted as sweat equity as well. Chairman Pell noted the sweat equity could also be adding three more barns into the barn book or some other similar act.

New Business: None

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None

Member Reports: Commissioner Brooks reported one of the barns on his property is going to be taken down.

Commissioner Bazan reported the Commission had received an e-mail response from Senator Durbin's office and noted he has reached out three times but has not received a response.

Commissioner Sherman stated for any of the barns that do not have a write-up, he would like to fill in what he can.

Staff Reports: None

Public Comment: None

Additional Comments: None

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Bazan made a motion to adjourn the June meeting with Commissioner Bock seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather